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PATENT

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Russell et al.
U.S. Serial No.: 09/043,665
Filed: October 5, 1998
Entitled: Materials and Methods
Relating to the Transfer of
Nucleic Acid into Quiescent
Cells

Group Art Unit: 1632

Examiner: Shukla, R.

Attorney Docket No.: 4219/1340
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

This amendment is filed in response to the Office Action, dated January 6, 2000, in the above identified application. Please amend the application as indicated below.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1 and 4.

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1. (Amended) A method of transforming a population of quiescent cells with a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide for treating a disease or disorder, the method comprising:
- exposing the cells to [(a)] a retroviral packaging cell line expressing nucleic acid encoding a growth factor, [or (b) retroviral particles expressing nucleic acid encoding the growth factor as a fusion with a viral envelope protein,] so that the growth factor is displayed on the surface of the cell line [or the viral particles], the cell line [or retroviral particles] carrying a vector comprising the nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide for treating the disease or disorder,
- wherein the surface bound growth factor induces the cells to divide, so that the nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide for treating a disease or disorder can incorporate into the genome of the cells.